

I. Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces without prejudice all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-14 (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A magnetic clamp device for clamping an outer free end region of a roll of ferromagnetic material against the roll of ferromagnetic material, comprising:

a housing portion[,] ;

at least one magnet element located in the housing portion[,] ; and

a handle portion extending from the housing portion,

the magnet element being of sufficient magnetic strength to couple with both the outer free end region and the roll of ferromagnetic material to draw the outer free end region and the roll into contact with one another, the handle portion being of sufficient length to permit a user to install the device on an outer free end portion and to remove the device therefrom, wherein the magnet element has a peripheral region, the first housing including at least one

housing portion to extend along the peripheral region of the magnet element, the housing further comprising a pair of housing portions, each to extend along a corresponding peripheral region of the magnet element so as to substantially encircle the peripheral region, each housing portion including a pair of ends, each end having a mounting flange to align with an adjacent mounting flange on the other housing portion, so that the mounting flanges may be secured to one another to fix the housing portions to the magnet element.

Claims 16-17 (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A device as defined in claim 15 17 wherein each of the mounting flanges includes a passage to receive a fastener there through.

19. (Original) A device as defined in claim 18 wherein each housing portion has a width that exceeds a corresponding dimension of the magnet.

20. (Original) A device as defined in claim 19, further comprising a lining portion to extend between the magnet element and the housing portions.

21. (Original) A device as defined in claim 20

wherein the lining portion is resilient and stretched over the peripheral region of the magnet.

Claims 22-24 . (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) A magnetic clamp device for clamping at least one first article to a ferromagnetic second article, comprising:

housing means[,] ;

at least one magnet means located in the housing means[,] ; and

handle means extending from the housing means, the magnet means being of sufficient magnetic strength to hold the first article between the magnetic clamp device and the second article, the handle means being of sufficient length to permit a user to install and to remove the device, the housing means including a pair of housing portions, each to extend along a corresponding peripheral region of the magnet element so as to substantially encircle the peripheral region of the magnet element, each housing portion including a pair of ends, each end having a mounting flange to align with an adjacent mounting flange on the other housing portion, so that the mounting flanges may be secured to one another to fix the housing portions portion to the magnet element.

26. (Original) A device as defined in claim 25 wherein each of the mounting flanges includes a passage to receive a fastener there through.

27. (Original) A device as defined in claim 26 wherein each housing portion has a width that exceeds a corresponding dimension of the magnet means.

28. (Original) A device as defined in claim 27, further comprising a lining portion to extend between the magnet means and the housing portions.

29. (Original) A device as defined in claim 28 wherein the lining portion is resilient and stretched over the peripheral region of the magnet means.